Task Force on Rural Development

3087. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the suggestions made by a Member of the Task Force on Rural Development in the Eighth Five Year Plan, which need a basic change in approach and strategy to the Plan policy and progrmme, are under consideration of Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) A member of Task Force on Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Programmes has made certain suggestions with regard to Approach for the Eighth Plan. The main suggestion is that the Plan should have as the first objective putting human resources deployment in production with upgradation of productivity rather than merely achieving a certain growth rate in GDP. These suggestions have been made available to the Task Force on Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Programmes for consideration as part of the Eighth Plan formulation exercises.

Disappearance of army jawans guarding Karnah sector

3088. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some army jawans guarding the Karnah sector in north Kashmir have mysteriously disappeared and are suspected to have crossed the border; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and whether the missing army jawans have since been located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) Four Army Jawans of an army unit in Tangdhar Sector of J & K deserted on 31st October, 1988. There is a possibility that these men might have crossed the border but this is not confirmed. Their present whereabouts are not known.

Family planning programme

3089. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated percentage of rise in the couples accepting the family planning programme since the beginning of 1987 and 1988, till date;

(b) what is the estimated percentage of fall in the birth rate in the country as a result thereof; and

(c) the names of the State Governments which continue to show unsatisfactory results in achieving the targets set for family planning programme and what is the reaction of the Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) According to latest figures received from States and Union Territories, the total number of acceptors of family planning during 1988-89 is estimated to have risen by 30.7 per cent as compared to the corresponding period of 1987-88.

(b) The latest information of annual estimates of birth rates available from Sample Registration System (SRS) of Registrar General of India shows that birth rate in the country has declined from 32.9 in 1985 to 32.6 in 1986 and 32.0 in 1977.

(c) A Statement showing percentage achievement of total targets for all family planning methods for the year 1987-88 and for the year 1988-89 as per latest information available, is given in Annexure [*See* Appendix CXLVIII, Annexure No. 130]. The States lagging behind in achievement of targets are being reminded regularly to make all-out efforts to achieve targets.